

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7951

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS PRAGUE 915

COMMERCE FOR BEWT/TDAD (STECHSCHULTE)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EIND, ENRG, CZ, UR

SUBJ: MAJOR TRADE OPPORTUNITY - PREHEATING PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION
OF COKING COAL

REF: PRAGUE 818 AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBOFF MET AS SCHEDULED APRIL 22 WITH ING. JAROSLAV LIMBERG, DIRECTOR, HUTNI PROJEKT, TO DISCUSS FURTHER ASPECTS OF PLANNED VISIT BY TEAM OF FOUR CZECHOSLOVAK METALLURGICAL TECHNICIANS TO ALLIED CHEMICAL "COALTEK" INSTALLATIONS IN U.S. AND U.K. IN CONTRAST TO WHAT WE HAD BEEN TOLD WOULD BE PURPOSE OF MEETING (SEE REFTEL), ING. LIMBERG SAID HE HAD NO SPECIFIC TECHNICAL QUESTIONS TO PASS ON TO MR. MARTING AT COALTEK ASSOCIATES, THAT MOST OF THESE HAD ALREADY BEEN RAISED DURING MARTING'S SEMINAR IN PRAGUE LAST JANUARY. ING LIMBERG WAS INTERESTED INSTEAD IN IRONING OUT FINAL ITINERARY AND SCHEDULE FOR CZECHOSLOVAK GROUP IN U.S. HE SAID DETAILED QUESTIONS OF TECHNICAL NATURE COULD BE RAISED ON SPOT IN U.S.

2. DATES SUGGESTED IN REFTEL ARE QUITE SATISFACTORY

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TO HUTNI PROJEKT AND AS A PRELIMINARY STEP ING. LIMBERG

IS RESERVING SEATS ON CSA FLIGHT DEPARTING PRAGUE MAY 19 AND ARRIVING NEW YORK (JFK) AT 1740 LOCAL SAME DAY. GROUP WOULD PLAN ON REMAINING IN U.S. UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 26, AT WHICH TIME THEY WOULD DEPART FOR LONDON, ARRIVING SAME DAY FOR INSPECTION OF COALTEK INSTALLATION AT BSC'S REDCAR WORKS ON MAY 27. RETURN TO PRAGUE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 28.

3. AS NOTED REFTTEL, GROUP WOULD HOPE TO BE SHOWN INSTALLATIONS IN PITTSBURGH AND ELSEWHERE IN U.S. INCLUDING, IF POSSIBLE, COALTEK PROCESS INSTALLED AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. ACCORDING TO ING. LIMBERG, HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES WILL HAVE OTHER INTERESTS BESIDES PREHEATING OF COKING COAL AND WOULD LIKE, AT MINIMUM, TO BE GIVEN COMPLETE TOUR OF MODERN STEEL MILL AT SOME POINT DURING STAY.

4. WE HAVE AGREED TO INFORM ING. LIMBERG BY END OF APRIL AS TO ALLIED CHEMICAL'S ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED DATES FOR VISIT AND SUGGESTIONS FOR DETAILED ITINERARY WITHIN U.S. IN ORDER THAT DOMESTIC FLIGHT AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE. REQUEST USDOC BEWT URGENTLY APPRISE MARTING OF FOREGOING AND ADVISE US OF HIS REACTION WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS.

5. FOR LONDON: YOUR ASSISTANCE IN ALERTING MR. J.A. LOWE, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF GIBBONS BROTHERS LTD. (LENCHES BRIDGE, BRIERLY HILL, WEST MIDLANDS), TO POSSIBLE VISIT BY CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION ON MAY 27 WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. IN SPEAKING TO LOWE, YOU MAY REFER TO HIS LETTER OF JANUARY 29, 1975, TO CHIEF OF EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL SECTION, FARRAND, ON THIS SUBJECT. TELEPHONE AND TELEX NUMBERS FOR GIBBONS BROTHERS LTD. ARE, RESPECTIVELY, 0384 (DUDLEY) 55491 AND 33179. PERRY

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